



May 25, 2025

GRACE GREATER THAN OUR SIN

Romans 5:12-21

The verses we will study today are connected to everything that precedes them. The word “therefore” is “*dia touto*” in the Greek. Paul is saying, “because the preceding is true, the following is also true. The word “therefore” serves as a comma, not a period. The apostle clearly articulated we are all guilty of sin (Rom. 3:23), therefore we stand condemned before God. Yet, God has provided redemption in the person of Jesus Christ (Rom. 5:1). As previously stated, this redemption is the result of our having been declared righteous (justified). How are we declared righteous? Only by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone! In the final section of Romans 5, *Paul explains and proclaims that God’s grace is greater than our sin!* Today we will examine chapter 5, verses 12-21. The first few verses provide an explanation of the root of our sin (5:12-14). In conclusion, Paul contrasts Adam and Jesus to proclaim the power of God’s grace over sin (5:15-21). I find Warren Wiersbe’s commentary on this section to be quite helpful:

How is it possible for God to save sinners in the person of Jesus Christ? We understand that somehow Christ took our place on the cross, but how was such a substitution possible?

Paul answered the question in this section, and these verses are the very heart of the letter. To understand these verses a few general truths about this section need to be understood. First, note the repetition of the little word *one*. It is used eleven times. The key idea here is our identification with Adam and with Christ. Second, note the repetition of the word *reign* which is used five times. Paul saw two men—Adam and Christ—each of them reigning over a kingdom. *Finally, note that the phrase much more is repeated five times. This means that in Jesus Christ we have gained much more than we ever lost in Adam!*¹

As we conclude Romans 5, one key thought will fill you with joy...

GOD’S GRACE IS GREATER THAN OUR SIN!

THE PROBLEM OF SIN (5:12-14)

- Guilt/shame (Genesis 2:25; 3:8)
- Death (Genesis 2:17)



"We have inherited from Adam his mutated nature so that we are incapable of choosing only good and avoiding all evil." *Chuck Swindoll*

Romans 1:20 (NASB95) For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

THE POWER OF GOD'S GRACE (5:15-21)

- The grace of God is greater! (5:15,20)
- The grace of God is a gift! (5:16)
- The grace of God is received! (5:17)
- The grace of God is transformational! (5:18)
- The grace of God is sovereign! (5:21, 17)

"Nothing can stand in the way of God's grace. It is absolutely sovereign. Eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord is assured. Praise His name!" *John Phillips*